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Serving the men and women of Fighter Country

Luke Air Force Base, Ariz.

## Knights return from Great White North

By Tech. Sgt. George F. Jozens

The 308th Fighter Squadron returned May 26 from Canada's Maple Flag exercise, representing one of eight participating countries.

The exercise was held in Cold Lake, Alberta, Canada, where some of the 308th FS operations were conducted in the snow, said Chief Master Sgt. Mckenneth Woodberry, 308th FS maintenance superintendent.

"The maintenance procedures during Maple Flag weren't much different than here, but we did have to practice de-icing on two of our F-16s for their mission," Woodberry said. "Our optempo of flying 15 sorties per day with our eight planes was pretty demanding. It was a breeze though, since we didn't have training, appointments or other commitments; we were completely focused on the sorties.

"The sustained performance of the aircraft and technicians represented a great showing for the 308th and Luke," Woodberry said. "We provided our operations with all the aircraft they needed to fly six aircraft twice a day and three incentive flights each day.

The United States, Singapore, Germany, the United Kingdom, Netherlands, New Zealand, Sweden and Canada participated in the exercise.

"The 308th was given a great oppor-



Staff Sgt. Christopher Matthews

Lt. Col. Mike Barton, 308th Fighter Squadron commander, is welcomed home May 26 by his wife, Kathy; daughter, Sadie; and son, Hayden.

tunity," said Master Sgt. Tomas Fredricks, 308th FS first sergeant. "Our people had the opportunity to work with people from different air forces and experience different airframes while working side-by-side with airmen from all over

the world. Because we were away from home it gave the Emerald Knight NCOs and airmen a chance to step into roles they don't usually fill and they did it with excellence."

The 308th FS maintainers kept the

F-16s ready for the pilots to provide opposing forces for the NATO exercise.

'All of us were able to practice air-toair techniques," said Maj. Donald Butler, 308th FS flight commander and weapons officer. "We usually teach students how to use the F-16. During Maple Flag we were able to practice our skills and provide NATO forces with red air adversaries. Augmenting the 414th Combat Training Squadron (Nellis Air Force Base, Nev.) was a great refresher for practicing tactics and radar usage.

The exercise was not all work.

"The Canadians are the friendliest people I've ever met," Fredricks said. They were awesome hosts. They even helped to arrange off-duty activities. Our people during their very deserved off-time, did some very interesting things, like fishing, touring, horseback riding and traveled to Edmonton."

In addition to the Canadians' friendliness, they also provided for the deployed

Our hosts provided for us so well we referred to the dining facility as the food feast," said Woodberry. "Their friendliness and hospitality taught us a lot."

The 308th FS also brought home some

"The 308th Fighter Squadron now holds the title of international crud champions," Butler said. "We beat teams from all over the world to earn the title.

#### New commander

## 56th Operations Group changes hands

By Kristen M. Butler 56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The 56th Operations Group switched hands May 26 during a change-of-command ceremony.

Col. Bob Steel became Luke's newest group commander. He comes to Luke from the Pentagon where he served as the Major Theater War Section and Warfighting Analysis Division chiefs.

As 56th OG commander, Steel is responsible for all 56th Fighter Wing F-16 training, which includes an operations support squadron, a training squadron and eight fighter squadrons.

"When I was notified about receiving a group commander position at Luke, it was like winning the lottery," Steel said. "To get an opportunity to leave the Pentagon, return to fly and work with the core of the F-16 fighter force is a 'grand slam' of an assignment."

Although the Riverside, Calif., native has only been in command a mere week, he has been at Luke since the middle of April. During that time, he had the opportunity to observe 56th FW operations.

"I am very impressed with some of the information technology improvements at Luke," Steel said. "We are certainly leading the Air

"Our people come to work

and significantly improve the

capability of our Air Force."

every day to make things better

This view falls in line with one of his leadership philosophies as noted by Will Rogers when he said, "Even if you are on the right track, you won't get anywhere if you're stand-

Force in this area."

ing still. The 22-year Air Force veteran has many goals for the operations group.

He said his first goal is to maintain a high quality force of dedicated professionals.

'The wing will continue to train the finest F-16 pilots for the United States and allied forces while maintaining a high state of expeditionary responsiveness," Steel said. "We must move training forward to be out in front of the

Air Force's transition to an expeditionary aerospace force.

An additional goal is to improve the quality of life for Luke's people. Another favorite quote of Steel's comes from John Le Carre when he said, "The desk is a dangerous place from which to watch the world." The new commander plans to be out on the flightline, in the squadrons, gathering information to make things better.

"Our strength is our people. Our people come to work every day to make things better and significantly improve the capability of our Air Force," Steel said. "This is really no different from any wing, group or squadron in our Air Force

Col. Bob Steel

56th Operations Group commander

- we recruit, train and retain the most talented and capable people in our armed forces today."

Steel said the group also faces many challenges due to a demanding flying schedule and an aging fleet.

"From sun up to well past sun down, we fly a very demanding flying schedule," Steel said. "We work our aircraft and people very hard and in a very demanding environment. As we continue to work with some of the oldest F-16s, we face many maintenance challenges. This requires everyone to be more vigilant, observant and thorough."

Although Steel said he has never been directly assigned with his new boss, Col. Steve Sargeant, 56th FW commander, they did spend time together during a tour at Headquarters Air

Force helping to shape future Air Force programs. "I can say from our combined experiences, we are going to help Luke get the right tools and the right



**Courtesy photo** 

Col. Bob Steel, 56th Operations Group commander, discusses issues with Lt. Col.s Larry Hudson and Pete Robles, 56th OG deputy

training to get the job done," Steel said. "With everyone's help, this will be a great team."

Steel's experience also includes more than 2,700 flying hours in the F-16 and F-4E. He has been assigned to Williams Air Force Base, Ariz.; Homestead and MacDill Air Force Bases, Fla.; Hahn, Ramstein and Spandahlem Air Bases, Germany; Nellis Air Force Base, Nev.; Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea; and the Pentagon.

His educational background includes graduating from the U.S. Air Force Academy, Colo., with a bachelor's degree in astronautical engineering; and a master's degree in public administration from Golden Gate University, San Francisco. He has also attended the Armed Forces Staff College at Norfolk, Va.; and Air War College at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.

He is married to the former Dee Mahaffy of Tullahoma, Tenn., and they have six children: Robert, James, Jonathan, Christopher, Paul and Michelle. The five younger children will be attending school in the local area while Dee will be active in teaching, coaching and judging gymnastics.

Steel took command from Col. William Louisell, who will serve as the doctrines and applications director at the Air Force Doctrine Center, Pentagon.

#### **Action Line**



Col. Steve Sargeant 56th FW commander

The 56th Fighter Wing Commander's Action Line is your direct line to me. I get personally involved in every reply. Your ideas and concerns help build a stronger foundation on which we can successfully complete our mission and take care of our people.

Before you call the Action Line though, give Luke's professional experts a

chance to answer your question in concert with your unit chain of command. If the appropriate official is unable to provide a satisfactory response, call me at 856-7011 or send an email to command. actionline@ luke.af.mil. Please include your name and telephone number so I can provide a personal reply to your concern. Together we can make Luke a better place to live and work.

Who to call:	
Fraud, waste and abuse hotline	856-6149
Base exchange	935-4652
Commissary	935-3821
Patient advocate	856-9100
Legal assistance	856-6901
Law enforcement desk	856-5970
Housing office	856-7643
Military pay	856-7028
MPF customer service	856-7874
Civil engineer customer service	856-
7991	

#### Down days at the CDC

Comment: My wife works at the child development center and I'd like to know why their staff never gets goal days off? Other base units are staffed to minimum-essential levels. Goal days are glamorized to be family days, yet many base people who earn the day off still drop off their children. As a result, most of the staff had to work.

Response: You're right, goal days are for people to spend with their families. However, some of our daily CDC users are not able to participate in goal days due to mission commitments or active-duty spouse deployment. Therefore, the CDC must remain open for them. In the future, the CDC will only accept children of daily users who can't participate in goal days. Drop-in children will not be accepted. This allows the CDC to operate with reduced staffing allowing more CDC staff to partici-

pate in the goal day with their families. e-mail:



#### Sortie Scoreboard

Fiscal year 2000 programmed flight training
To date Goal
Souties flows 24.652

 Sorties flown
 24,653
 38,503

 Flying hours
 32,622
 50,317

 Pilot graduates
 536
 876

 MRT graduates
 489
 972

Luke people deployed: AEF 5/6: 76 and AEF 7/8: 38 Others: 5

#### Command chief speaks:

## Provide troops mentorship

By Chief Master Sgt. Kevin Isakson 56th Fighter Wing command chief

As the Air Force moves into the new millennium, we are faced with different and difficult challenges that our young service must solve. We hear a lot about manpower shortages, retention, recruiting, deployments and optempo; however, we meet every challenge head-on and are very successful.

How are we successful? It's simple. Our Air Force possesses the most treasured resource any military service could wish for —quality people working together achieving common goals. Our people define success through concerted efforts every day while executing the mission. Each person on our team defines success differently, but must understand the link between personal goals and meeting mission objectives.

Success is often, but mistakenly, discussed in terms of promotion. Despite our very competitive and selective promotion process, some people conclude promotion to colonel or chief master sergeant is a successful career.

However, this is far from true. Success is when a recruited and trained individual honorably serves our nation and is a contributing member of our Air Force team. Length of service or highest grade shouldn't be and isn't the primary factor of a successful tour or career.

As we mentor and develop our people, we need to distinguish between Air Force requirements and individual career goals, while striking a balance between aspirations and realistic expectations. With that in mind, focusing on certain successful traits will help people while serving the greatest Air Force in the world.

Successful traits to remember

- Have drive, working persistently toward objectives, while executing the Air Force mission.
- •Accept responsibility. Not only welcome it, but seek it as a way to prove values.
- •Look, listen and learn. Know the difference of seeing

and observing and hearing and understanding.

- \*Set an example by striving to do better. Inspire and encourage those around to follow that example.
- ◆Profit from your mistakes. It is just as important to know what not to do, as what to do.
- •Cooperate, instead of playing it alone. Realize what is best for the team is best for them.
- •Be willing to go the extra mile.
- •Know the value of enthusiasm and positive attitude; both are very contagious, breeding confidence to everyone around.
- ◆Never "pass the buck," if you make a mistake or have exercised poor judgement. Admit and learn from it. ◆Be your own critic. Everything you do must measure up to your standards and standards are high.
- Never forget to do the best you can. "Good enough" isn't enough and only your best passes the test.
- •Realize your future is your responsibility. You alone determine how far up the ladder you'll climb. Control your own destiny.

This isn't an all-inclusive list, as many people have proven throughout history. However, it's a starting point to gauge your work performance, daily life and military career. Consider we are on earth a short period of time. It's a noble and patriotic act to serve your country for any number of days, regardless if it is four or 30 years.

Your level of success is defined through actions and goals. While doing that, you make a significant contribution to our U.S. Air Force; a win-win situation for both parties. Take a moment and reflect on your past successes. What have you learned? What can you improve?

The Air Force is successful because of you. It needs successful people to tackle the ever-evolving changes we face each day. Make a positive difference as all true warriors would when faced with challenges. You're the best in the world and we have to continually prove that each day with teamwork and perseverance. Do the right thing — be proud to serve!

## Did you put on your uniform today?

By Chief Master Sgt. Vince Dicks

Minot Air Force Base, N.D.

A chief master sergeant was sitting at his desk just down the hall from the operations group commander's office at Pope Air Force Base, N.C. As the chief finished his second cup of coffee after reviewing the last of the morning messages, the commander stepped into his office.

"Chief," the colonel said, "I hate to ask you this, but you need to be in the desert six days from now for a 90-day rotation. Can you go?"

With no emotion in his voice or without even looking up, the chief replied, "I put on my uniform this morning, didn't I?" The colonel was a little taken back by the chief's response because he wasn't one to talk in riddles. The colonel thought to himself, "Has this 28-year veteran finally gone off the deep end?"

The wise old protector of the enlisted corps smiled and explained.

"Sir, I made a promise to myself more than 20 years ago that I'd only put this uniform on as long as I'm available and ready to do the duty it requires."

While this story seems obvious, it completely escape others. Available for duty means more than negotiating premium assignments

or scheming to get a suite vs. a regular billeting room.

Available for duty means we are ready to go any place in the world at any time. Recently, I've seen some Air Force members spending more time and energy getting out of an assignment than it would have taken to just suck it up.

Thinking back on patriots that came before, I reviewed some history on the soldiers who were at Valley Forge, Pa. and Omaha Beach. I'm glad they weren't worried about assignments, billeting rooms and time off. Many of those warriors sacrificed a great deal; some gave their lives to ensure the freedoms we often take for granted.

Their approach may seem overly simplistic; however, when it comes to defining service to our country, the answer is that simple. Those patriots were available for duty and they did their jobs well.

In today's world of "what can you do for me?," it's easy to lose sight of what service before self is all about. Service goes far beyond the individual, it affects the well being of our nation. Sitting in Minot, N.D., it's easy to forget the sacrifices we have agreed to endure in the service of our country. When deployed to Saudi Arabia, Italy, Kosovo or Bosnia, the sacrifices become much clearer.

The bottom line is we're an all-volunteer force serving our great nation.

Even with a two-thirds reduction in force, we still maintain a highly mobilized, continually-tasked Air Force. Because of this fact, the expeditionary aerospace was formed.

As I visit organizations, they are constantly wrestling with manning authorizations, present-for-duty rates and filling deployment and ready augmentee requests to meet mission requirements at home and around the world. If a single member doesn't pull his or her weight, another member is forced to fill the slot causing a ripple throughout our Air Force. These slots must be filled by people available and ready for duty.

Everyone's families would like them to be home for the holidays, birthdays and anniversaries. Nobody would intentionally miss those things. Many of us are well aware of the pain felt when we lose a loved one and the grief that's compounded by the fact we weren't there in the final moments.

Military members are asked to sacrifice all of this continuously. We must remember we are serving our country as volunteers — not forced to do it. I believe each of us need to take a good look in the mirror and ask "am I available for duty?"

I put on my uniform today and I'm

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#### Takin' a peek ...



Staff Sgt. Christopher Matthews

Capt. Stephen Granger, 61st Fighter Squadron, shows local councilmembers around the F-16 May 25. About 25 West Valley mayors and their staffs visited Luke to meet with senior leadership and discuss topics of mutual interest.

## **Ozone alert** State initiates advisory plan

By Kristen M. Butler 56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

It is now officially ozone season — the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality issued its first ozone advisory for the year May 22.

ADEQ issued the advisory to let valley residents know high ozone levels were expected May 23.

In response, Team Luke organizations implemented their respective portion of Air Episode Plan 707, which is the base's plan to eliminate 10 percent of all motor vehicles commuting to and driven on the base. OPLAN 707 is the base's commitment Arizona Gov. Jane Hull's Ozone Alert Program.

Ozone pollution heightens from June through September each year in the valley. Increased ozone pollution is caused by residents driving more than 60 million miles each day, combined with increased temperatures and sunlight reacting with organic compounds and hydrocarbons, said Jeff Rothrock, 56th Civil Engineer Squadron environmental flight assistant chief.

Maricopa County, including Luke, lies within a nonattainment area. This means the air quality does not always meet federal clean air safety standards.

To comply with these standards, Maricopa County and Luke have adopted plans to follow



Airman Julie Cordle

Airman Delvin Barnes, 56th Communications Squadron, utilizes the visual information golf cart. Use of golf carts reduces emissions, which is especially important during ozone alert days.

when the ozone approaches dangerous levels.

Exposure to high ozone levels may damage lung tissue; worsen asthma, bronchitis, heart disease and emphysema; irritate respiratory system; damage plant life; and contribute to paint discoloration and damage buildings and homes.

"Luke and Governor Hull have adopted a program that would alert people before the ozone exceeds federal standards," said Jeff Schone, 56th CES air program manager. "When an advisory or alert is issued, there are a number of things Team Luke can do to help combat ozone levels."

High pollution advisories are generally issued the preceding day when Arizona's environmental quality department determines ozone levels have the potential to reach unhealthy levels. At Luke, group commanders are notified through the command post and via e-mail while messages are placed on the marquee and commander's access channel to alert people to implement OPLAN 707.

Luke people can help reduce emissions by carpooling, riding bicycles, using golf carts for short trips on base, telecommuting and utilizing alternate work schedules, said Gary Ewing, 56th CES trip reduction manager.

In addition, during an advisory, the plan suggests the following practices should be cut by 25 percent on a voluntary basis:

- •Jet engine testing
- •Abrasive blasting
- •Surface coating
- ◆ Diesel generations
- •Natural generators
- Natural gas boilersHot water heaters
- Natural gas chillers
- •Refueling underground gasoline storage tanks
- •Refueling government-owned vehicles
- ◆Use of solvents, such as thinners, cleaners, degreasers and abrasives

In addition to taking measures in the work place, individuals can participate as well. Following are some tips to help reduce the ozone while at home or off duty:

- •Refuel vehicles after 4 p.m.
- •Keep cars tuned
- •Never top off tanks
- •Avoid gas-powered garden equipment
- •Reduce driving
- •Close lids tightly on household cleaners, paints and chemicals.

"We want the community to know Luke people are good stewards of clean air," Rothrock said. "The success of this program comes down to what each individual can do – it must be a basewide as well as individual effort."

#### **News Briefs**

#### Healthcare benefits briefing

A Government Employees Hospital Association representative visits the base Tuesday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the 56th Support Center building, Room 1163. Civilian employees become familiar with services and pharmacy benefits, receive referral information and ask questions.

#### Retirement ceremony

The chapel hosts a retirement ceremony for Tech. Sgt. Chauncey Ivey Wednesday at 2 p.m. at the main chapel.

#### Outdoor recreation rental change

Squadrons must pay a rental fee of 50 cents for folding chairs and \$1 for tables. The items can be reserved by calling outdoor recreation at 856-6267.

#### TDY per diem rules

When military travelers are on temporary duty to military installations, their per diem is based on government quarters and mess availability. The person generating the orders should check with the TDY base's billeting office for mess availability. This specification sets the amount authorized. Military staying off base continue to receive the full locality rate. Civilians are entitled the full rate regardless of where they stay. For more information, visit the 56th Comptroller Web page at www.luke.af.mil/56cpts.

#### Medical records change

Beginning June 15, primary care patients with same-day appointments will no longer have to pick up and hand carry their medical records; patients can go directly to their appointment. This change is designed to improve customer service, ensure confidentiality and provide better continuity of care. For more information, call Curt Hudson at 856-2447 or Tech. Sgt. Mel Finley at 856-7513.

#### ACSC recruiting

The education office seeks active-duty, Reserve and National Guard major selectees and GS-11s and above for Air Command and Staff College who have not yet completed their professional military education requirements. For more information or to register, call Cathy Brogan at 856-7722.

#### Aerospace integration report

The Air Force recently released a report on aerospace integration. The plan involves combining air and space capabilities and personnel to attain better results than could be achieved with air and space elements operating independently. "The Aerospace Force: Defending America in the 21st Century" is available on Air Force Link at www.af.mil/lib/taf.pdf.

#### Academy seeks command chief

The Air Force Personnel Center's Chief's Group in conjunction with the U.S. Air Force Academy seek a command chief master sergeant to report by July 31. Those interested, may call DSN 333-4144 for detailed information on how to apply.

#### Justice Report

These actions occurred between May 22 and May 26.

•An airman first class received an Article 15 for being drunk and disorderly. He was reduced to airman and given 45 days extra duty.

•An airman received an Article 15 for falling asleep on post. He was reduced to airman, given 30 days extra duty and 30 days restriction.

•An airman first class received an Article 15 for being absent without leave and two counts of failure to go. He was reduced to airman basic, given 30 days extra duty and 30 days restriction.

•An airman first class received an Article 15 for viewing unauthorized web sites on a government computer and for writing a false official statement. He received 14 days extra duty.

•An airman first class received an Article 15 for two counts of underage drinking and failure to go. He was reduced to airman, forfeited \$100 for two months and given 10 days extra duty and a reprimand.

•An airman received an Article 15 for making two false official statements. He must forfeit \$500 and received 45 days extra duty and 45 days restriction.

#### Take me out to the ball game ...



Staff Sgt. Christopher Matthews Staff Sgt. Craig Brown, 56th Supply Squadron, sings the National Anthem Sunday at the Arizona

Diamondbacks game against the Milwaukee Brewers at the Bank One Ballpark in downtown Phoenix. The Brewers beat the Diamondbacks 4-3 in 11 innings, ending a six-game winning streak.

## Luke begins club promo

The 56th Services Squadron is in week seven of its 14week sweepstakes promotion to reward club members for using their club card in its facilities.

Called "We Prefer," the promotion ends July 15.

Sweepstakes entry is simple; every time a member charges a minimum of \$5 with their club card at participating services activities, they receive an entry form.

During fiscal year 1999, services squadron activities paid more than \$34,000 in bank fees for charges made with other credit cards. However, when members use the club card, services does not pay a bank merchant fee.

The goal is to keep precious nonappropriated funds dollars at Luke to finance improvements for Luke people, while adding value to the club card, said John Beckett, 56th SVS business operations.

"Lowering our cost of doing business allows us to improve facilities and programs throughout the squadron and make our programs better for Team Luke," he said.

Prizes include \$1,000 in cash, a 25-round golf coupon book, a two-night stay in an A-Frame at Fort Tuthill, free dues for a year at each club or \$250 in "Club Bucks", a weekend pontoon boat rental from outdoor recreation, and a custom bowling ball and bag valued at \$175.

Participating activities include the officers' and enlisted clubs, outdoor recreation, skills development center, the golf course and the bowling center.

For more information, visit a participating services activity or call Beckett at 856-6625. (Courtesy of the 56th

## 5 Thunderbolt pilots earn Air Force awards

By Mary Jo May 56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

An instructor pilot assigned to the 310th Fighter Squadron received a Silver Star, three others received the Distinguished Flying Cross, and another officer received the Air Medal in a ceremony May 19 at the

Capt. Julian Chesnutt received the Silver Star, the third highest Air Force medal, for his gallantry May 31, 1999, in connection with military operations against Serbia near Belgrade during Operation Allied Force.

Capts. Chris Ashby, 308th Fighter Squadron; Matthew Mulligan, 63rd Fighter Squadron, and James Walker, 61st Fighter Squadron, received the Distinguished Flying Cross for their efforts in March 1999 during Operation Allied Force. Col. Kurt Dittmer, 56th Operations Group, received the Air Medal for his efforts during Desert Fox in December

Within two months of completing forward air control training with the 310th FS, Chesnutt was in combat over Kosovo leading a flight of four F-16 fighters while assigned to the 555th Fighter Squadron, Aviano Air Base, Italy.

"I was a brand-new four-ship flight lead — the first time I've ever taken four aircraft out without an instructor pilot," Chesnutt said. "The weather was terrible and we were supposed to get gas in Hungary, but all the tankers moved because of thunderstorms. We finally found a tanker and got gas, but

the thunderstorms in the northern part of Yugoslavia required me to adjust our routing.

Chesnutt and his wingman were in front flying within a mile of each other and 8 miles behind them were the other two members of the fourship. On the way to the target, SA-6 surface-to-air missiles targeted them. Wearing night vision goggles, Chesnutt and his wingman aggressively maneuvered to avoid the missile. The missile flew right in front of Chesnutt's jet.

Seconds after the first launch, two more missiles were called in the air at the 3 o'clock position. With complete disregard for his own personal safety, Chesnutt turned his jet 90 degrees to point right at the surface-to-air-missile site. He used his infrared targeting pod and night vision goggles to track the missile smoke trails back to the launcher.

Chesnutt directed his formation to continue to the assigned target even though the site was still active. He pressed his solo attack on the SAM site and released two laser-guided bombs. He then patiently guided the bombs for 30 seconds, although doing so exposed him to a counter-attack from the SA-6. His bombs scored a direct hit on the launcher, causing one of the missiles to detonate on the rail.

During this time, Chesnutt called other F-16s in the region to provide him suppression of enemy air defenses support. SEAD support aircraft carry the high-speed anti-radiation missile, or HARM,

Senior Airman Shanna Jones

Luke instructor pilot Capt. Julian Chesnutt performs a pre-flight inspection before a flight with the 310th Fighter Squadron. He recently received the Silver Star for his actions during Operation Allied Force.

See Medals, Page 5

This column recognizes Team Luke members' contributions to wartime readiness in the tradition of 2nd Lt. Frank Luke.

Name: Master Sgt. Scott Fuller, 56th Medical Operations Support and Aerospace Medicine Squadrons first sergeant

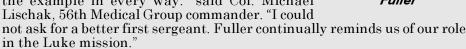
Hometown: Moorhead, Minn.

Years service: 15 Family: Wife, Tracy; daughter, Amber; and cats Brandi and Daisy

Inspirations: My family and Chief Leon McCoy Goals: To be a diamond-wearing chief, then a command chief master sergeant

Off duty: Camping and family time

Commander's comments: "Master Sergeant Fuller is the very definition of integrity; he sets the example in every way." said Col. Michael





Fuller

Luke's Col. Steve Sargeant, 56th Fighter Wing commander, uses this column to recognize Team Luke members' outstanding customer service.

Name: Chris Brownlow, 56th Civil Engineer Squadron community planner

Hometown: Prescott, Ariz. Years service: Four

Inspirations: My folks and other ordinary people who live extraordinary lives. Also romantic composers Tchaikovsky and Strauss

Goals: Have a positive influence on Air Force and Defense Department land-use policies and to one day go back to the farm

Off duty: Gardening, hunting, swimming and fixing stuff Commander's comments: "Chris has earned the respect and admiration of citizens that surround Luke Air Force Base as well as the Thunderbolts he serves so well," Sargeant said. "He is the repository of infor-

mation that has kept encroachment from limiting our ability to conduct our mission of providing security for our nation."



Brownlow

#### Medals-

Continued from Page 4

that follows radar back to its origin. A SEAD pilot fired a HARM that hit the SA-6 radar and destroyed it right at the time when Chesnuttwas most vulnerable.

"He quite



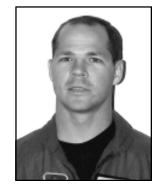
Mulligan

likely saved my life," said Chesnutt. "It's like the wide receiver that does the last block on the last play for a touch down."

Chesnutt rejoined his formation and at-

tacked the target with his remaining two bombs, adding to the enemy destruction he caused m i n u t e searlier. He hammered the military complex with 100-percent effectiveness.

"I got credit



Walker

for blowing up the site, but it was all the other people that made it happen," Chesnutt said. "Everyone involved in the process is a team because they all

have a role to play. From the guys in the ammo dump working 20-hour shifts putting the bombs together; the weapons loaders; the crew chief and the F-16 SEAD pilots — all



**Ashby** 

doing their jobs perfectly!"

Chesnutt said he learned a lot of very good techniques while at Luke going through the FAC and low alti-

tude night terrain infrared radar navigation courses.

"I couldn't have done this mission without the training at Luke and the Goldwater Range."



Dittmer

## AF receives first operational T-6A Texan II

By Ralph Monson

12th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) — Joint specialized undergraduate pilot training took on a new look May 23 as the Air Force received the first operational T-6A Texan II.

The T-6A is a joint-service primary pilot training aircraft that will replace the Air Force and Navy's aging fleets of primary trainers. Produced by Raytheon Aircraft Company, the T-6A will be used to train entry-level Air Force and Navy aviation students.

"The T-6A is the trainer of the 21st Century," said Gen. Lloyd Newton, AETC commander, at the arrival ceremony. "The Navy and Air Force will once again fly a common aircraft with a common training system."

Newton said he expects the T-6A to provide the Air Force and Navy with the same faithful service as the current training workhorses — the T-37 Tweet and T-34 Turbomentor. He lauded the T-6A's high power-to-weight ratio, its modern cockpit, zero-zero ejection seat, ease of maintenance and low operating cost.

"The T-6A will provide America with the best primary pilot training system in the world," Newton said.

Rear Adm. Mike Bucchi, Naval Air Training chief, also participated in the arrival ceremony.

"Our country's security is dependent upon the competence and confidence of its warriors," Bucchi said. "The T-6A training system is destined to enhance



Charlie Perez

Enrique Rodriquez, 12th Flying Training Wing aircraft maintenance, directs the Air Force's first operational T-6A Texan II into position during an arrival ceremony May 23 at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas.

both ... I know, because I have flown it. I only wish I could begin my career all over again and have the opportunity to learn to fly in such a superb platform."

The Air Force and Navy transition to the T-6A is expected to take approximately 10 years. The Air Force will steadily replace T-37s with T-6s at all AETC joint specialized undergraduate pilot training bases.

Randolph's 559th Flying Training Squadron is the first operational unit to fly the T-6A. Moody Air Force Base, Ga., is next on the Air Force list, with the new trainer slated for arrival in late 2001. Laughlin Air Force Base, and Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas; Vance Air Force Base, Okla.; and Columbus Air Force Base, Miss., are also scheduled to transi-

tion to the T-6A for primary training.

The Navy T-6As will be stationed at Naval Air Station Whiting Field and Naval Air Station Pensacola, Fla., and Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas.

According to training officials, the Air Force will receive 372 aircraft and the Navy will get 339 trainers. An additional 29 T-6s will be used in the joint Air Force and Navy undergraduate navigator training program. Aircraft production at Raytheon is expected to last through 2014

T-6 program officials said the new trainer brings capabilities beyond those of the T-37 and T-34. It is also quieter and more fuel efficient. The T-6A can fly at speeds in excess of 270 knots true

air speed. Its certified ceiling is 31,000 feet, and it has a range of more than 900 nautical miles.

Because of its high thrust-to-weight ratio, the aircraft can perform an initial climb of 3,300 feet per minute and can reach 18,000 feet in less than six minutes. Its turbo-prop engine delivers 1,100 horsepower. The aircraft is fully aerobatic and has an anti-gravity system.

Some other advantages of the T-6A over the T-37 are quicker handling and faster maintenance turnaround. The new trainer has an expected service life of approximately 16,000 flying hours.

The T-6A Texan II is named after the classic T-6 Texan trainer used by the Navy and Air Force in the 1940s and 1950s.

## House passes bill: focuses on quality of life

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — The House passed its version of the fiscal 2001 defense authorization bill May 18. The bill targets improvements to military health care, addresses modernization and readiness shortfalls and funds a 3.7- percent pay raise for service members.

The bill, House Resolution 4205, authorizes \$309.9 billion in budget authority, an increase of \$4.5 billion over the president's budget request. The House bill now goes to the Senate for action.

"H.R. 4205 is a good start toward ensuring that America's military can meet the challenges that lie ahead and ensure the safety and security of all Americans well into the 21st century," said Chairman Floyd Spence, House Armed Services Committee.

Highlights of House Resolution 4205 include:

- Health care: The bill restores pharmacy access to all Medicare-eligible military retirees and paves the way toward a permanent healthcare program for military retirees over age 65 in 2004. A provision also extends TRICARE Prime Remote coverage to family members and eliminates co-payments for active-duty family members under TRICARE Prime.
- Pay raise: The bill calls for a 3.7 percent military pay raise effective Jan 1.
- Housing costs: Funding to reduce out-of-pocket housing costs for members to less than 15 percent.

- ◆Targeted subsistence benefit: Up to \$500 per month allocated to assist the most economically challenged service members.
- Special pays and bonuses: An increase of the initial officer uniform allowance from \$200 to \$400. And an increase in the maximum special duty assignment pay to \$600 per month beginning Oct. 1, 2001.
- Reserve retirement points: The bill would increase the maximum number of days per year reservists can accrue as credit toward retirement benefits from 75 to 90.
- Enlistment and reenlistment bonuses: Of the additional \$217.6 million added by the House bill for recruiting and retention, \$153.7 million is allotted for bonuses. The Air Force share of this will be \$36.5 million, with the Army receiving the largest share, at \$50 million. A provision will authorize enlistment bonuses of up to \$20,000 and extend the authorities for enlistment bonuses for active-duty people with critical skills, selected reserve, ready reserve and prior service reservists through Dec. 31, 2001.
- ROTC stipend: A provision is included to increase the monthly minimum stipend paid to ROTC cadets from \$200 to \$250, and authorizes a tiered set of stipends, up to a monthly maximum of \$600.

In addition to addressing pay and quality-of-life initiatives, the House bill also provides funding for vari-

ous Air Force modernization and readiness programs.

The bill provides an additional \$94 million—a total of \$142.3 million—for modification of the B-2 Spirit fleet. The funds will enhance the Spirit's capabilities to carry small "smart" munitions and development of a center instrument display.

Additionally, funding is provided for procuring 12 C-17 Globemasters. The House also allotted funds for a 16th E-8C JSTARS aircraft, one of the Air Force chief of staff's unfunded requirements.

Other aircraft targeted:

- F-15 Eagle: Funding is provided for modifications and upgrades as well as two additional F-15E aircraft.
- F-22 Raptor: The House supports the president's request for \$1.4 billion for research and development; \$2.1 billion for 10 low-rate initial production aircraft, and \$396.1 million for advance procurement of 16 LRIP aircraft in fiscal 2002.
- ◆ Joint Strike Fighter: The House added an additional \$15 million above the president's request to accelerate development and flight-testing of the aircraft. However, the House stipulates a provision limiting the JSF program's approval beyond the demonstration and validation phase until the defense secretary certifies the JSF's key technologies are mature enough to allow entry into engineering manufacturing and development.

## DOD expands health care

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — In a move to expand alternative health care options to over-65 military retirees, the Department of Defense announced May 26 that it had expanded the Federal Employee Health Benefit Program demonstration project to include two new over-65 military retiree demonstration sites.

These additional sites are in the surrounding ZIP code areas of Coffee County, Ga.; and Adair County, Iowa. They expand one of the department's projects to determine the most feasible way to provide health care for uniformed services Medicare-eligible beneficiaries and certain others. Members of the Military Coalition and the National Military and Veterans Alliance, two consortiums of organizations representing TRICARE beneficiaries, randomly selected "seed" areas for the additional program sites in early April.

This congressionally mandated demonstration project allows certain eligible uniformed services beneficiaries to enroll in, and receive their health care through, a health plan in the FEHBP, the same program used by civilian federal employees and retirees. DOD will contribute the standard government amount, which is almost three-quarters of the plan's premium.

The eight sites originally selected for the demonstration project include areas around Dover Air Force Base, Del.; Commonwealth of Puerto Rico; Fort Knox, Ky.; Greensboro/Winston-Salem/High Point, N.C.; Dallas; Humboldt County, Calif.; Naval Hospital, Camp Pendleton, Calif.; and New Orleans.

The expanded demonstration will target about 25,000 eligible beneficiaries in each location, increasing to 120,000 the number of beneficiaries eligible for the FEHBP demonstration. The Iowa site encompasses the entire state (except ZIP code areas in the Offutt Air Force Base's catchment area), parts of Minne-

sota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas and Missouri. The second site includes parts of Georgia, Florida and South Carolina

The next enrollment opportunity at all demonstration sites, including the two new ones, will begin in November during the FEHBP's annual enrollment open season. Coverage for new participants will begin Jan. 1, through Dec. 31, 2002. The U.S. Office of Personnel Management administers the FEHBP. OPM and DOD jointly administer the DOD and FEHBP demonstration project.

"We are attempting to find the best way to care for our senior beneficiaries," said Dr. Sue Bailey, assistant Health Affairs secretary of defense. "We understand their belief in the promise of health care for life, and we want to try to meet it. These men and women served our country honorably and they deserve our very best efforts."

This fall, DOD mails "The 2001 Guide to Federal Employees Health Benefits Plans participating in the DOD and FEHBP Demonstration Project" to all eligible persons within the designated ZIP code areas. The guide contains a list of participating health plans, benefits, premiums and other information.

Information is available in late summer on a series of meetings about the project that are conducted in the areas of the demonstration sites. Beneficiaries who meet eligibility criteria will receive notification by mail. Others may call the DOD/FEHBP Project Call Center toll-free at 1 (877) 363-3342, for further information.

For a complete list of ZIP code areas to be served by the new demonstration sites, and other information about the FEHBP demonstrations, visit the Military Health System Web site at www.tricare.osd.mil.

## Air Force wants 170 employees

By Staff Sgt. Cynthia Miller Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — The Air Force seeks about 170 civilian employees in grades GS-12 through GS-15 to participate in two ongoing leadership and management programs in 2001.

Under the Air Force Civilian Competitive Development Program, the service will select 100 to 110 candidates — nominated by senior leaders — to participate in career broadening activities, while under the Defense Leadership and Management Program 50 to 60 qualified candidates will be selected.

According to Greg Den Herder, personnel force management deputy director, initiatives offered through these leadership development programs include increased opportunities for education, training and development, relocation bonuses to help offset the cost of geographic moves and an increased number of professional military education seats for civilian employees.

Commanders must submit their nominations for both programs to the Air Force Senior Executive Matters Office by Aug. 18. CCDP selections are announced in November with DLAMP selections named in December.

According to Den Herder, the DLAMP is designed to cultivate select employees from GS-13 through GS-15 grades into leaders and managers through training, education and professional development over a six-year period. Participants must finish a 12-month rotational assignment, senior-level PME and at least 10 graduate-level courses in a broad range of subjects appropriate for defense leaders.

#### Joint Strike Fighter

## Competitors fly concept demonstrators

By Staff Sgt. A.J. Bosker
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Competitors for the Air Force's newest multi-role aircraft, the Joint Strike Fighter, begin flying their concept demonstrators in the next few months according to service officials.

Boeing and Lockheed Martin are competing for the contract. Selection of the winning airframe will be made early next year with deliveries of the first aircraft beginning in 2005 and initial operational capability beginning in 2010.

Tagged to replace an aging fighter fleet, the JSF will fulfill a future ground-attack role, with air superiority provided by the F-22 Raptor.

The Air Force needs the JSF to replace its aging fleet of F-16s and A-10s, according to Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Michael Ryan.

"This will ensure that young Air Force men and women always will have the advantage of technologically superior weapons. We never want a fair fight; we want the odds to be 100 to 1 in our favor," Ryan said.

The Air Force's JSF focuses primarily on countering the ground threat while maintaining a secondary air-to-air capability, said Maj. Michael McGee, Air Force JSF Requirements Office, Directorate of Operational Requirements.

"Currently, we team the F-15 to counter the air threat and provide air superiority with the F-16, which counters not only the surface-to-air missile threat but acts as the majority piece of our ground-attack force of fighter aircraft," McGee said. "Just as the F-15 and F-16 play complementary roles today, so too will the F-22 and the JSF."

Not intended to be exclusively an Air

Force fighter, three variants of the same basic JSF airframe are being developed for the Air Force, Marine Corps, Navy and the United Kingdom's Royal Navy and Air Force, McGee said.

The Air Force is ordering the conventional take off and landing version, the Navy is ordering the carrier version and the Marine Corps and the United Kingdom are ordering the short take off and vertical landing version.

The focus of the Defense Department's JSF program is affordability by reducing the development and production costs and the total cost of ownership, according to the JSF Joint Program Office.

Of the estimated 3,000 aircraft to be produced, the Air Force is looking to purchase 1,763, McGee said.

"This will reduce the cost to the Air Force and other partners because of the economy of scale and the number of aircraft being purchased," McGee said.

Additionally, the avionics, minus some small variations, will be the same for all three versions of the JSF, he said.

"When it is time to upgrade the avionics the services will not have to pay for three different software upgrades for three separate aircraft. The Air Force will only be sharing the cost for one," McGee said.

Further savings will result from the reduction of different types of support and maintenance equipment used by all three services, McGee said.

"The equipment that will be purchased will be ordered in larger quantities, reducing costs even more," he said.

One major advantage the JSF has is that it is the first fighter aircraft designed to be fully interoperable with all four services, McGee said. Although the Army is not purchasing any aircraft, it has been a key player in making sure everything on the JSF is fully interoperable with all Army systems.

# Team Luke volunteers at JROTC camp



Airman 1st Class Michael Doane, 62nd Fighter Squadron (right), instructs a Junior ROTC cadet during the survival portion of their summer leadership school.



Photos by Tech. Sgt. Michael Burns

Tech. Sgt. Denis Bechen, 63rd Fighter Squadron, teaches cadets May 24 how to read a map and plot some grid coordinates.



Senior Airman Adam Greene, 56th Security Forces Squadron, instructs a cadet to stay low during the low-crawl obstacle.

By Senior Airman Jennifer Dixon 56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Leadership skills and teamwork are virtues just about any employer looks for in an employee.

That's why nine Luke members volunteered their time during the Junior ROTC Summer Leadership School at Camp Navaho in Flagstaff May 21 through 27.

"We try to get Air Force people who have recently gone through basic training or survival school to teach the cadets what it takes to work together and accomplish goals," said retired Lt. Col. Arthur Stark, senior aerospace science instructor.

Stark is happy with the help the summer school receives from the active-duty volunteers. The active-duty force brought much to the camp.

Life support professionals from the 63rd Fighter Squadron, 310th FS, 21st FS and 62nd FS; two from the 607th Air Control Squadron; a 63rd FS medic; and a 56th Security Forces Squadron member brought Humvees, parachute material, navigational equipment and the knowledge to use it all to share with the cadets

"Most of us have been retired for so long we've lost touch with what needs to be done," Stark said. "(The volunteers) are expanding my vision and making (this camp) a better product."

Since the school started three years ago, the

number of cadets attending and active-duty members volunteering has grown. Tech. Sgt. Denis Bechen, 63rd FS life support element, has attended from the start.

"We're out here because we want to help," said Bechen, who plans to continue with this type of activities when he retires from the Air Force. "It also helps us to polish our skills so we can teach the pilots better survival skills."

During the school, cadets from Dobson, Mesa, Peoria and Westwood high schools learned to work and live together. They attended classes on leadership skills and drills to teach them how to follow orders.

The cadets then applied those skills in the field. In the field, the cadets ran an obstacle course with Luke members encouraging teamwork to "conquer" each obstacle.

After the course, Luke members taught the cadets navigational skills and gave them coordinates and a map. The cadets then used those skills to find their lunch—Meals Ready to Eat hidden in the woods—and their campsite—which was about 2 miles from the obstacle course—without help from the instructors.

Once at the campsite, the Luke members showed the cadets how to build shelters with parachute material.

"The help we receive from Air Force members is invaluable," Stark said. "There is no way our instructors could do all this. The Air Force members have the resources and knowledge of current survival skills needed to pull this off."

A cadet stays low to keep from getting tangled during the obstacle course.



Tallyho June 2, 2000

## Family advocate retires

"She epitomizes the

56th Mission Support

Squadron's motto of

'every day a little bit

Lt. Col. Paul Price

commander

56th Mission Support Squadron

better."

By Kristen M. Butler 56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The person who brought the Women, Infants and Children program; the women's and boss of the year program; the Hearts Apart support group; Give Parents a Break; and an enlisted spouses club to Luke leaves the base after 17 years government service.

Vernadene Loveland, family support center information and referral specialist, retired Wednesday after 13 years at Luke. Although she started as a commander's secretary in one of the fighter squadrons, her work at the family support center since 1989 has made the most impact.

"Vernadene is a class act; her selflessness, dedication and tireless work ethic has set a standard for civilian and military personnel alike," said Lt. Col. Paul Price, 56th Mission

Support Squadron commander.
"During her 11 years at the family support center, she has truly left her mark on the Luke community.

"She epitomizes the 56th Mission Support Squadron's motto of 'every day a

little bit better.' When I asked her what she'll miss most, she responded,

'the people, especially the young troops and their families," Price said.

She has been the champion of many quality-of-life programs for Team Luke members. Young enlisted troops, families and retirees have benefited most, but her programs have impacted nearly everyone.

"For years I tried to get a WIC office at Luke. Eventually I asked at the right time and the mission was accomplished," Loveland said. "In less than a year we've gone from having a representative here one day a month to one day a week and now we have more than 200 Luke families using this worthwhile program."

Besides the WIC program, Loveland also initiated the annual Luke Parent University. This is an all-day program designed to educate parents on current child-rearing and couples issues.

In addition to helping families, Loveland has also worked hard to

make newcomers feel welcome by conducting Happy Landings. This program gives military spouses a tour of base facilities, introduces Luke's programs and allows participants an opportunity to meet others.

Beyond her duties at the

family support center, Loveland has been involved with the Luke Officers



Airman Delvin Barnes

A family support center customer goes over a job application with Vernadene Loveland, FSC information and referral specialist. Loveland retired Wednesday after 17 years government service.

Wives Club as a board member and has been the Federal Womens Program manager since 1990.

"In the last 10 years, I've seen significant improvements in the amount of support we give our military families," Loveland said. "It really makes a difference in their quality of life."

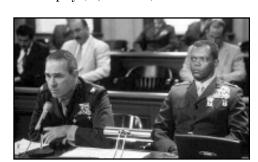
Loveland said she leaves her family support center position with mixed emotions, but will remain in the local area and continue as the OWC publicity manager.

"It's difficult to leave, having so many ties here at Luke," Loveland said. "I've always believed you should get involved and make the most of every situation. I've truly enjoyed my time at the family support center – it's been my way of giving something to the Luke community."

Loveland said she will never truly retire. Since she was born and raised in Canada, she and her husband, a retired Marine Corps colonel, plan to travel and make many trips back to her native Vancouver. She also likes to play golf, racquetball, walk and do ceramics. In addition, she will be involved with an outreach program in Surprise and other nonprofit agencies for the less fortunate.

#### Luke Movies

Movies begin at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Children 12 and under pay \$1; adults \$1.50.



#### Friday, Saturday

Rules of Engagement (R) Stars Tommy Lee Jones, Ben Kingsley, Samuel L. Jackson and Anne Archer. In this courtroom drama, Col. Terry Childers is a 30year Marine veteran who is charged with ordering his troops to fire against civilians during an attack on a foreign U.S. embassy. Childers turns to his longtime friend, Marine Col. Hays Hodges, to defend him.



#### Saturday, Sunday at 2 p.m.

The Road to El Dorado (PG) Stars Armand Assante and Kenneth Branagh. Tulio and Miguel, a pair of two-bit con men, believe they have found their path to fortune and glory when they win a map to El Dorado, the legendary City of Gold.



#### Sunday

Keeping the Faith (PG-13) Stars Ben Stiller, Edward Norton, Jenna Elfman and Kryss Anderson. Rabbi Jacob Schram and Father Brian Finn are childhood friends living and working on New York's Upper West Side.

When Anna Reilly, once their childhood friend, returns to the city, she re-enters Schram and Finn's lives and hearts with a vengeance. Sparks fly and a complicated love triangle ensues.



#### June 9

U-571 (PG-13)

Stars Matthew McConaughey, Bill Paxton, Harvey Keitel and David Keith. This World War II suspense drama is about a U.S. submarine crew's battle against time.

The S-33, a vintage submarine, embarks on a mission to rendezvous with a stranded German submarine and capture the Enigma' machine, a top-secret coding device that could stop the incessant attacks on the allies.

#### Chapel News

#### Worship schedule

The following is Luke's Protestant and Catholic worship schedule:

Protestant worship

• Holy Communion is Sunday at 8 a.m. at the Luke Community Chapel.

• Gospel service is Sunday at 8:30 a.m. at the Chapel on the Mall.

• Morning worship service is Sunday at 11 a.m. at the Luke Community Chapel.

• Evening praise service is Sunday at 6 p.m. at the Luke Community Chapel.

Catholic worship

• Saturday Mass is at 5 p.m. at the Luke Community Chapel.

◆ Sunday Mass is at 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. at the Luke Community Chapel.

• Weekday Mass is at noon in the Luke Community Chapel.



#### Singles meet

The Luke Chapel
Singles meets at 5 p.m.
every Thursday in the
fitness center for
walleyball and at
7 p.m. in the Luke
Community Chapel
conference room for
bible study.

For more information on these and other chapel programs, call 856-6211.

#### **Around Base**

#### Embry-Riddle registration

Registration for Embry-Riddle University's Summer Term ends today. Classes began Tuesday and the term ends July 31. Register at the 56th Support Center building, Room 3143. For more information, call 935-4000 or 856-6471.

#### Child care provider training

The family child care office conducts new provider training from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. June 19 to 21 at the FCC office, Bldg. 1137. For more information, call 856-7472.

#### VolunTeen seeks youths

The American Red Cross VolunTeen Program hosts an orientation Tuesday from 9 a.m. to noon in Bldg. 1144, Room 944. The program is open to young people ages 13 to 19 to serve in various hospital clinics, the pool as junior lifeguards and other offices on base. Parents are encouraged to attend the orientations. To register, call 856-7823.

#### Guard Start program begins

Session II of Guard Start, an American Red Cross program for 11 to 14 year olds to learn the roles and responsibilities of being a lifeguard, meets 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. June 12 through 16 at the Oasis Pool. Cost is \$30 and includes shirt and books. For more information, call 856-6267.

#### Children's storytime

Children's storytime is from 9:30 to 10 a.m. Thursday and June 15, 22 and 29 in the library. Thursday's stories are about travel and vacations. Call 856-7191 to register.

#### Ethnic meals

The Ray V. Hensman dining facility features ethnic meals from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. every

Wednesday in June. Scheduled meals include Southern-style cuisine Wednesday, Italian June 14, Cajun- style June 21 and Mexican June 28.

#### Preteen game night

Children 6 to 12 years old can play a variety of games including board games, ping pong, basketball or bowl from 6:30 to 9 p.m. today at Bldg. 1143. Cost is \$3 per person. Appropriate shoes must be worn in the gym. For more information, call 856-6225 or 856-7470 for more information.

#### 'Battle of the Bands'

The community center hosts a "Battle of the Bands" contest starting at 6 p.m. June 10 at Fowler Park. Bands will compete for first-, second- and third-place prizes at the free event. For more information, call 856-7152.

#### Rio Salado summer term

Rio Salado's summer term begins Monday. The term is eight-weeks long. Call 856-3239 or stop by Bldg. 1150, Room 3138, to register.

#### Babysitter's course

The American Red Cross offers a babysitter's training course for 11 to 15 year olds at 9 a.m. Saturday in the 56th Support Center building, Room 1077.

The course develops participants skills in five areas: leadership, safety and safe play, basic care, first aid and professionalism. Cost is \$30. Preregister by calling 856-7823.

#### June birthday meal

Airmen living in base dormitories and celebrating a birthday in June are invited to a special birthday meal at 5 p.m. June 22 in the Ray V. Hensman dining facility. Enjoy steak and lobster or steak and shrimp. Those who missed April's birthday meal may attend the June meal. Sign up at the dining facility. For more information, call 856-6238 or 856-7329.

#### Teen babysitting class

The youth center sponsors a Red Cross babysitting class for teens from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday in the 56th Support Center building, Room 1064. The free class includes a babysitting kit. Participants need to bring a sack lunch. The class is limited to 30 people. For more information, call 856-7470.

#### Newcomers youth orientation

The youth center hosts a newscomers orientation for youths 6 to 18 years old who are new to Luke from 6 to 6:30 p.m. Tuesday in Bldg. 1143. Youth will receive a newscomers briefing, tour the facility and meet the youth center program coordinators. For more information, call 856-7470.

#### Teen Diamondbacks game

The youth center offers a trip for teens 13 to 18, to see the Diamondbacks play July 1. The group leaves the youth center at 11:30 a.m. and returns after the game. The cost is \$10. The trip is limited to 13 people. For more information, call 856-7470.

#### Youth art classes

The skills development center offers summer art

classes for children ages 8 and older. Students learn various forms of art including crafts, ceramics and fine arts. The class meets six times per session. The cost of \$7 per class or \$35 per session includes materials. For more information, call 856-6722.

#### Teens in the Kitchen class

The youth center conducts a Teens in the Kitchen class from 5:30 to 7 p.m. June 10 for 13 to 18 year olds to learn about kitchen safety techniques, balanced nutrition and safe food preparation. Spaces are limited to 10 people with military identification. For more information, call 856-6225 or 856-7470.

#### Wood frame class

A wood frame class meets at 2 p.m. June 11 and 15 at the wood hobby shop. Students learn to build a wood frame. The cost of \$10 does not include supplies. For more information, call 856-6722.

#### Talent Search 2000

The Desert Star Enlisted Club schedules auditions until Wednesday for Talent Search 2000. The talent show is June 23. Proceeds go to Operations Warm Heart. For more information, call 935-2610 or (480) 396-5361.

#### Information, Tickets and Tours

Information, Tickets and Tours is in the community center. Dillards Box Office and Ticketmaster are open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; and closed Sunday. For more details, call 856-6000.

#### **Tours**

Laughlin

A trip to the Riverside Casino in Laughlin, Nev., departs at 6 a.m. and returns at about 10 p.m. Sunday and June 18. The cost of \$5 includes transportation, champagne brunch or dinner buffet and coupons for casino action and gift shops. Participants must be at least 21 years old. Space is limited; register early.

#### **Tickets**

Tickets for a variety of community events, concert and festival tickets are available. Call for locations, times and events.

Tallyho June 2, 2000

## Top Hats steal win from Gamblers, 13-11

By Senior Airman J. Propst 56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Both the 310th Fighter Squadron Top Hats and the 21st Fighter Squadron Gamblers got off to a roaring start May 25 for a high scoring intramural softball game at the base fitness center.

In the first inning the Gamblers heavy hitting took the lead, 3-2.

Even with poor Gamblers fielding in the second, the Top Hats were unable to bring anyone across home plate. The Gamblers on the other hand, took full advantage of Top Hats pitcher Brett Evanicki, bringing in three runs.

The Gamblers again held the Top Hats during the third. When the Gamblers took their turn at bat, a strong hit by Chuck Graves put him on second base. Andrew Pace brought him home and crossed the plate himself on the next play. This gave the Gamblers a six-run lead going into the fourth inning.

The Top Hats then took advantage of the Gamblers fielding mistakes. Strong overall hitting by the Top Hats, including a powerful line drive by Robert Gutierrez, gave the Top Hats three runs. The Gamblers momentum then slowed as well; they only scored one run. The inning ended with the Gamblers still clinging to their lead 9-5.

There were no runs during the fifth even with valiant efforts by both teams. The Gamblers improved their fielding, including a spectacular diving catch by Steve Goll to put them at bat. Evanicki put three batters down immediately however, preventing the Gamblers from increasing their lead.

What looked like a sure thing suddenly changed when the Top Hats scored five runs during the top of the sixth to tie things at 10.

The Gamblers took back their lead from the



Staff Sqt. Christopher Matthew

Gamblers Steve Goll makes a flying catch to end the inning in an intramural softball game againts the Top Hats. The Top Hats took the game, 13-11.

Top Hats by bringing one run home, ending the inning 11-10.

In the seventh, the Top Hats had trouble getting anything started until Chris Rodriguez hit a triple, bringing home the Top Hats 11th run. The Gamblers put three batters up; all were shot down by the Top Hats pitcher Mark Staub, ending the inning tied at 11.

In the extra inning, the Gamblers missed a

catch allowing the Top Hats to bring in two runs. During the bottom of the eighth, the Top Hats worked hard to keep their lead. A skillful double play from Evanicki to John Foster to Reney Bartlett ended the game giving the Top Hats the win 13-11

"Our defense kept us in the game and came up with the right plays at the right time," said Top Hats coach. Gutierrez.

## 607th Snakes poison 309th Wild Ducks, 10-6

By Senior Airman J. Propst 56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The 607th Air Control Squadron Snakes shot down the 309th Fighter Squadron Wild Ducks 10-6 in an intramural softball game May 25 at the base fitness center.

Field errors by the Wild Ducks allowed the Snakes to score three runs during the first inning. The 607th returned the favor by allowing Jerry Korpin an inside-the-park home run scoring two runs. The inning ended with Wild Ducks behind by one.

The Snakes lineup had a commanding performance during the second, putting four more runs on the board. The Wild Ducks just couldn't keep up, leaving many of their runners on base. They did manage to bring in one run, however, ending the inning 7-3.

During the third, the Snakes continued to strengthen their lead by one, while the Wild Ducks remained scoreless

The Wild Ducks began to fight back in the fourth, knocking three Snakes down as fast as they came to the plate. Wild Ducks Woody Glasscock led the assault in the bottom of the inning with a strong triple, bringing in one run. In total, the Wild Ducks scored three runs ending the inning with the 607th clinging to their lead, 7-6.

Poised to take the game, the Wild Ducks ensured the Snakes had another scoreless inning. Snakes pitcher David Hull had other ideas. Hull struck the first two batters out with the infield taking care of the last one.

In the sixth, the Snakes scored another run while striking out three Wild Ducks to give them a two-run lead.

In the seventh and final inning, the Snakes struck once again by putting two on and Michael Dombrowski bringing both home with a solid hit. In the bottom of the seventh, the Wild Ducks tried a comeback by putting two on, but to no avail. Joseph Rodriquez and Gary Greene completed a double play to end the game with the Snakes coming out on top, 10-6.

"We didn't hit extremly well, but the hits we made were timely," said Snakes team member Joseph Mendoza. "We had a couple of big innings that put us ahead."



Staff Sgt. Christopher Matthews

Snakes Kelly Chase catches the ball after a Wild Ducks player crosses the plate. The Snakes won the game, 10-6.

#### Sports Shorts

#### Father's Day bowling

Luke lanes has an extreme bowling special June 18 from noon to 4 p.m. Dads bowl free and those 18 and younger bowl for \$2.10 per game.

#### Cold water

The fitness center will not have hot water Thursday through June 13 because the water heater is being replaced.

#### Softball tournament

The 12th annual "Contracting Weekend Bash," a military regional softball tournament, is July 22 and 23 in Tucson. The top four teams receive prizes and each player on the championship team receives their choice of a new glove or bat.

There is a reduced fee for early entry. For more information or to sign up, call Greg Manning at (520) 228-4190.

#### Biking, camping, hiking outing

Outdoor recreation sponsors a 12-mile downhill biking trip June 24 down Humphry's Peak, the highest point in Arizona. The group spends one night camping at Fort Tuthill before hiking the upper Oak Creek Canyon and biking down. The van departs June 24 at 6 a.m. and returns June 25. Participants must be at least 12 years old. The trip is limited to 12 people. For more information, call 856-6267.

#### Indoor soccer camp

The youth center sponsors a youth indoor soccer camp for children 6 to 12 from July 17 to 21 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the youth center gym. The camp is limited to 50 participants. Cost is \$25.

Register at the youth center or call 856-7470.

#### Coaches needed

The youth center needs adult volunteer coaches for the youth summer basketball league. The season begins June 17. For more information, call 856-7471.

#### National trails day

The White Tank Mountain Regional Park staff plans a morning of activities as part of National Trails Day Saturday from 6 to 11 a.m. Throughout the day there are several hikes, bikes and horse rides planned. For more information, call 935-6056 or visit www.maricopa.gov/rec\_svc.

#### Youth basketball

The youth basketball opening day ceremony is June 17 at 9 a.m. in the youth center.

## Stingrays begin swim season

By Senior Airman J. Propst

Luke's youths are swimming their way through summer with the Luke Stingrays swim team.

The swim team, which is not competitive, has been meeting for two weeks and is still accepting members.

"I want them to get to know and love swimming," said team coach Shiloh Boone. "I hope they have fun, build friendships and have a good summer."

The team takes part in the Maricopa and West Valley non competitive swim meets.

"We don't stress winning," Boone said. "However, I will help them (team members) meet any personal goals they have."

Boone will discuss personal goals with the athletes during the next few weeks. She will also meet with team members' parents today at 6 p.m. to discuss team goals and get input from the parents.

"Swimming challenges my son at an individual level and they learn to be challenged as a team," said Dana Wakefield about her son Seth, 7, Stingray team member.

The members are working to participate in their next meet slated for June 15.

Youths who want to join must possess basic swimming skills and be able to swim the length of the pool, said Erin Dodds, head water safety instructor.

"During practices we work on endurance and improving their swimming skills," Dodds said. "We also have family events and allow them to play at the end of practice."

There are currently more than 20 members on the team which practices Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 4:30 to 6 p.m. at the Oasis Pool. The \$35 per person cost for the entire summer includes pool fees and meet costs.

"We don't stress winning," said Boone. "It's all about going out and having fun."



Airman Julie Cordle

Cassie Kauntzman, volunteer coach, assists Nicole Briggs, 8, with kicking during youth swim team practice.

## AF member carries torch

By Staff Sgt. Bob Pullen Anderson Air Force Base, Guam

One of the world's most recognized symbols of peace and goodwill, the Olympic Torch, came to Guam May 22 for the first leg of the largest torch relay in Olympic history.

The U.S. Air Force was well represented. Rodney Gibson, 13th Air Force vice commander, was one of 100 runners chosen to carry the Olympic Flame on Guam.

"This is such a tremendous honor," Gibson said.
"To be able to represent the men and women of
Andersen and the Air Force is truly another high
point of my Air Force career."

In deciding which 100 people would carry the torch on Guam, Richard Blas, the president of the Guam National Olympic Committee, said the decision to include the Air Force and Navy in the torch relay was an easy one.

"The Air Force and Navy are such an important part of our island," Blas said. "They both contributed so much when we hosted the South Pacific Games here last year that we wanted to make sure they were represented during relay."

Rear Adm. Tom Fellin, U.S. Naval Forces Marianas commander, represented the Navy.

Each one of the relay participants' gets to keep the torch he or she carried during the relay. However, Col. Gibson said the torch he carried did not belong to him.

"I wasn't here today running for myself," Gibson said. "We are going to find a nice place to display this torch in the 13th Air Force headquarters building to serve as a reminder that the Air Force was included for this memorable occasion."

Tallyho June 2, 2000

### **SPORTS**